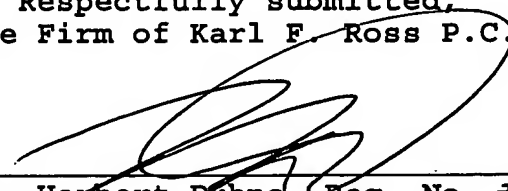


This preliminary amendment is submitted to eliminate the multiple claim dependency and to provide the cross reference of the present US phase of the PCT application PCT/GR02/00047 to the international PCT application according to Rule 78.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Firm of Karl F. Ross P.C.



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By: Herbert Dubno, Reg. No. 19,752  
Attorney for Applicant

11 January 2005  
5676 Riverdale Avenue Box 900  
Bronx, NY 10471-0900  
Cust. No.: 535  
Tel: (718) 884-6600  
Fax: (718) 601-1099

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